

RULE 1

GENERAL

(as amended effective July 16, 2007)

(a) Application

These Local Rules apply in civil actions as defined in Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 1 and 2. The Court may modify these rules in exceptional circumstances or when justice so requires.

(b) Effective Date: Repealer

These rules shall be effective April 5, 2004, and shall govern all proceedings in cases then pending, or thereafter brought. All prior rules of this Court are repealed, and all standing orders inconsistent with these rules are vacated, as of that date.

(c) Definitions

The term “judicial officer” includes district judges and magistrate judges. The term “district judge” refers to a federal judge as defined in 28 U.S.C. § 451. The term “magistrate judge” refers to a federal judge as defined in 28 U.S.C. §§ 631-639. The term “party’s attorney” or similar term whenever used in these rules shall include a party appearing without counsel. The term “clerk of court” includes the Clerk of the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, the Chief Deputy clerk, and deputy clerks. The term “marshal” includes the United States Marshal and deputy marshals.

(d) Numbering

The numbering of the local rules tracks the numbers of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Supplemental local rules concerning admiralty or maritime claims have been assigned letters “A” through “F,” corresponding to the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims. Rules concerning specific local matters have been listed under the letter “G.”

(e) Citation

Citation of a particular provision of the local rules of civil practice, including the local rules concerning admiralty or maritime claims, shall be by name and number, including the year of enactment when referring to a previous version of the rule: e.g.,

Local Civil Rule or L.Cv.R. 1(e); Local Admiralty Rule or L.Adm.R. A (1997). If the pleading makes reference to the local rules of another district, give the abbreviated district name followed by the year of enactment, including the year of enactment when referring to a previous version of the rule: e.g., Local Civil Rule for the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts or L.Cv.R. 1(e) (D.Mass. 1997); Local Criminal Rule for the U.S. District Court for the District of Maine or L.Crim.R. 101(e) (D.Me. 1997).

(f) Failure to Comply

The violation or failure to comply with these rules may entail sanctions.

(g) Suspension of the Rules

The Court, may suspend or modify the requirements or provisions of any of these Rules in a[ny] particular case by written order. When a Judge of this Court issues any order in a specific case which is not consistent with these Rules, such order shall constitute a suspension of these Rules for such case and only to the extent that it is inconsistent therewith.